

# **Impact of Drought Emergency Measures on the Ground in the Delta**

**RTD-1002**

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State Water Resources Control Board  
Sacramento CA**



# **Topics**

**Drought Barriers**

**Giant Garter Snake**



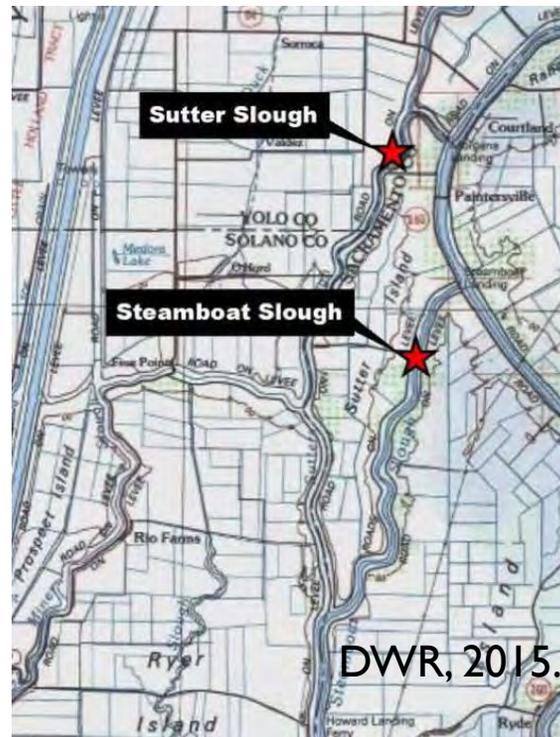
Fishable, Swimmable, Drinkable, Farmable

# Drought Barrier

# Giant Garter Snake



- DWR announced three barriers in late January 2015.
- Extended comment period from mid-Feb to March 30.



North Delta Barriers would harm many farmers, harm emigrating young salmon and resident fish.

DWR withdrew North Delta sites, settled on single barrier at False River.



## DWR's Purpose with Barriers

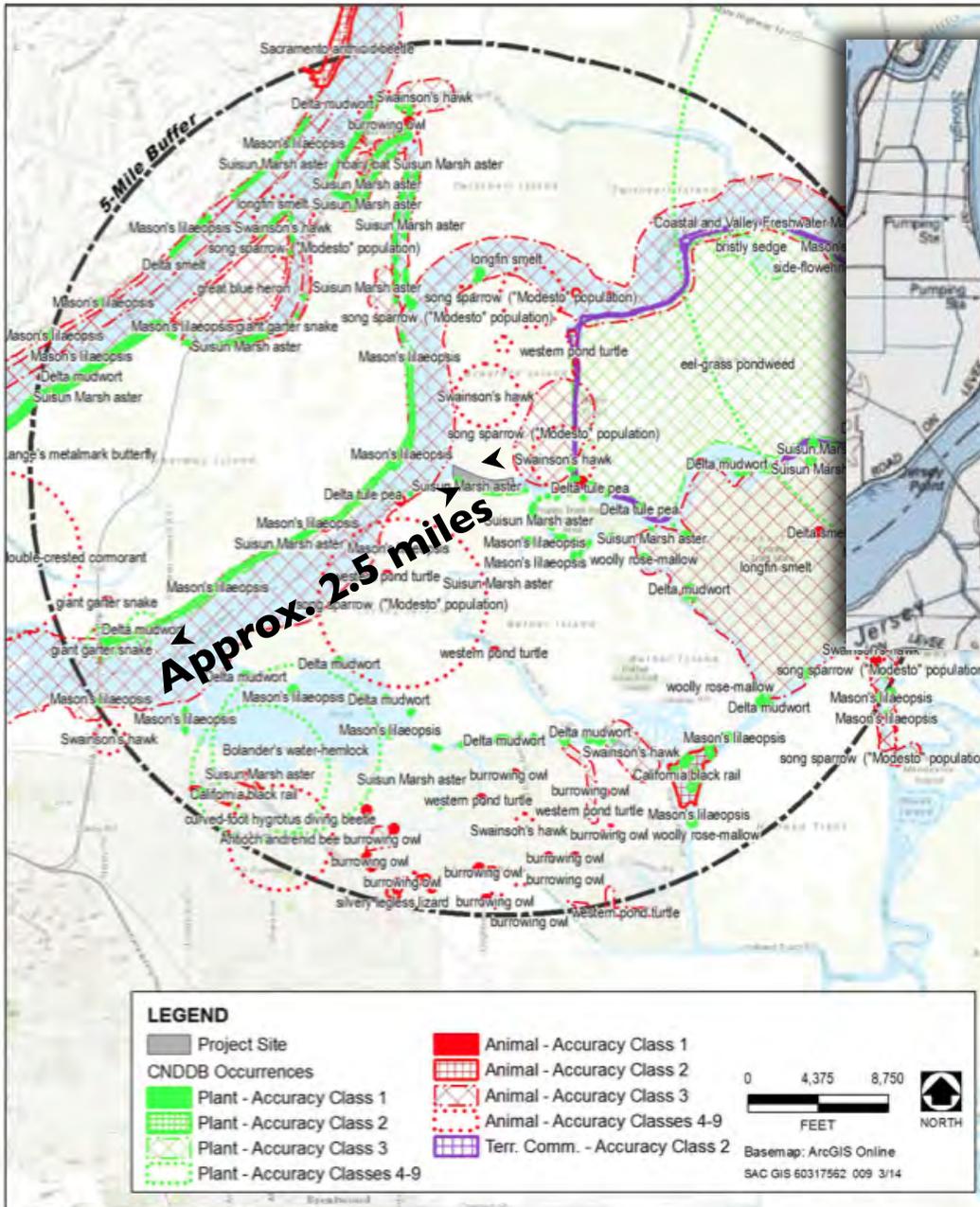
- Barriers physically limit tidal salts entering Delta channels—reduces water releases by SWP and CVP to control salinity.
- Barriers help improve quality of water SWP and CVP are able to export.

## RTD Stance on Barriers

- **Imposes impacts of SWP and CVP mismanagement on Delta.**
- **Unknown impacts of TUCP on Delta smelt and other vulnerable native fish species.**
- **Potential impacts on vulnerable terrestrial species like giant garter snake.**

Head of Old River  
Temporary Barrier, DWR.

# Drought Barrier Giant Garter Snake



**Range of GGS averages 9.6 miles**

# Drought Barrier **Giant Garter Snake**



# Drought Barrier **Giant Garter Snake**



Giant garter  
snake fencing  
near False  
River site.



## **401 Certification Concerns:**

- Adequacy of field surveys.
- Poor job of public notice.
- Harm to endangered fish species from semi-permanent structures as “predation hotspots.”
- DWR started construction before 401 Cert or other permits issued.
- Mitigations not explicitly incorporated from DWR’s IS/MND in 401 Cert.
- RTD requests comment period extension for 401 Cert.

# Thank you

